Pollock (1989) suggests that $I^\circ$ actually consists of two different heads, $T^\circ$ (for tense) and $Agr^\circ$ (for agreement). Pollock (1989:386) further suggests that $T^\circ$ is higher than $Agr^\circ$, but I shall here follow Belletti (1990:28) and Chomsky (1995:150, 173), who suggest the structure and the derivation (or at least checking) of finite verbs shown in (1):

(1) 

```
  AgrP
     Spec  Agr'
            (Subj)
               Agr°
                   TP
                      Spec T'
                         T°
                             VP
                                Spec V'
                                   V° ...
```

\[ a. \text{ME.} \quad \text{-est} \quad \text{-d-} \quad \text{her-} \quad \text{(late Middle English, 14th & 15th century)} \]
\[ b. \text{ENE} \quad \text{-st} \quad \text{-d-} \quad \text{hear-} \quad \text{(early modern English, 16th century)} \]
\[ c. \text{Ge.} \quad \text{-est} \quad \text{-t-} \quad \text{hör-} \]

This means that the end result, i.e. the finite verb in $I^\circ$, looks as follows when we put it under the microscope:

(2)

```
  Agr°
     T°
     V°
     Agr°
```

\[ \begin{array}{ll}
  a. \text{ME.} & \text{her-} \quad \text{-d-} \quad \text{-est} \\
  b. \text{ENE} & \text{hear-} \quad \text{-d-} \quad \text{-st} \\
  c. \text{Ge.} & \text{hör-} \quad \text{-t-} \quad \text{-est} \\
\end{array} \]

\[ \text{hear- PAST- 2-SG} \]

The idea that the different morphemes of the finite verb reflect the order of lexical and functional heads is called the "Mirror Principle", following Baker (1988:13).
A different reason to assume the split-Infl analysis has to do with the actual position of the verb, even if all the evidence comes from French infinitival verbs.

Between Agr° and T° there may be a negation. Belletti (1990:30), based on Pollock (1989:397) and Moritz (1989), suggest that NegP is the sister of Agr° and TP is the sister of Neg°. Presumably negations which are full XPs, e.g. En. not, Da. ikke, Fr. pas and Ge. nicht, occur in NegP-spec, whereas “clitic” negations, like En. n’t and Fr. ne, occur in Neg°.

Between T° and V° there may be a sentence adverbial. I shall continue to assume this to be adjoined to VP.

(4) AgrP
     /\                   \
    /  \                   /
   /   \                   /
  /     \                 /     \
 DP Subj Agr° NegP Spec not Neg° TP Spec T° VP AdvP often Spec V° VP Spec V° DP Obj

If we only consider evidence from finite verbs, as on my project hand-out, 07.02.2008, we will not find any support for splitting I°, as finite verbs are always either in Agr° or in V°:

(5)  a. Fr. Jean lit souvent le journal = (5b)
b. En. John often reads the newspaper
c. En. John has often read the newspaper
d. Fr. Jean ne lit pas souvent le journal = (5e)
e. En. John does not often read the newspaper
f. En. John has not often read the newspaper

When we turn to infinitives in French, distinguishing between Agr° and T° allows a more precise description. Infinitive main verbs may be in V° or in T° but not in Agr°:

(6)  a. Ne parler l'italien après ...
b. * Ne parler pas l'italien après ...
c. A peine parler l'italien après ...
d. Parler à peine l'italien après ...

... cinq ans d' étude dénote une manque de don pour les langues
... five years of study denotes a lack of gift for languages

(adapted from Pollock 1989:377-379, (24a), (27a), (29a))

Vikner, 21.02.2008, p. 2
The same again with slightly different data:

(7) Fr. a. Lire souvent Joyce est utile pour le comprendre
b. Souvent lire Joyce est utile pour le comprendre

(Read) often (read) Joyce is useful for him to understand

(Moritz 1989:34, (46))

(8) Fr. a. *Ne lire pas souvent Joyce est compréhensible
b. Ne pas lire souvent Joyce est compréhensible
c. Ne pas souvent lire Joyce est compréhensible

-- (Read) not (read) often (read) Joyce is understandable

((8b,c) are from Moritz 1989:34, (47))

Consider finally infinitive auxiliaries, which may be in V°, in T° or in Agr°:

(9) Fr. a. Jean-Pierre avoue n’être pas souvent à l’heure
b. Jean-Pierre avoue ne pas être souvent à l’heure
c. Jean-Pierre avoue ne pas souvent être à l’heure

Jean-Pierre admits (be) not (be) often (be) at the time

(Rowlett 1998:6, (6))

References